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Annual Report

ON THE

Health



OF THE

*URBAN DISTRICT
OF WILLENHALL*

FOR THE YEAR

1956

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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health and Assistant County Medical Officer :

R. C. Gubbins, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector :

H. E. T. Lowbridge, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspectors :

R. Peel, M.R.S.H. Resigned 31/12/56.

B. M. G. Roger, M.R.S.H.

J. A. Richards, M.R.S.H.

Clerical Staff :

Miss E. G. Duffield.

Mrs. M. Robotham.

Miss K. Proffitt.

*Public Health Department,
Walsall Street,
Willenhall,
Staffs.*

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WILLENHALL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the work of the Department for the year 1956. In this is incorporated the Report of your Chief Public Health Inspector.

There has been no untoward alteration in the local circumstances to affect the health of the community. My comments on the vital statistics follow their presentation in the Report, and call for no special repetition here, except to note a welcome reduction in the Infant Mortality Rate compared with last year.

But during the year one national outstanding circumstance did occur which, in its potential affect on the health of the community—locally as well as nationally—I consider to be one of the greatest advances in Preventive Medicine—the passing of the Clean Air Act.

When one contemplates the fact that bronchitis and its allied afflictions are 40-50 times (!) greater in “the Black Country” than in places like Denmark, and when one considers the loss of working time involved in the deprivations of such chest conditions, one can but be appalled that the existing atmospheric pollution has been allowed to arise; and sigh for the alleviation that sunshine, blue skies, and pure air will bring to the afflicted population of this and surrounding areas, and for the increased prosperity that should result from greater working capacity.

We are so used to castigating industry for the condition of our air that we fail to remember that 50% of the pollution is due to the domestic hearth, and the Clean Air Act (rightly, I think) has begun its emphasis with the private dwelling. To educate the private householder is going to be the toughest part of the implementation of the Act (it's always “the man next door” who pollutes the skies!) and it is in this educational aspect that I would like to see real democratic leadership on the part of the Local Authorities, where each Member of a Council should become an earnest (and enthusiastic) advocate of the use of smokeless fuels starting with their own homes!

If I particularly urge such public example upon the Members of the Willenhall Council, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is because the Council is fortunate in having a particularly good nucleus of knowledge and enthusiasm incorporated within itself. It is honoured by now, (1957) having one of its Members a Member of the Clean Air Council. It has a Clerk who is prepared to back any progressive measure with enthusiastic diligence. It has, in its Chief Public Health Inspector, an official who, by his knowledge and enthusiasm, is making not only a reputation for himself, extending far beyond the confines of this District, but who is, together with the above-mentioned persons, putting Willenhall "on the map"—on the "Clean Air Map" of England, at any rate, where one might hope its significance may rival its significance on the "key map" of the Country.

I would again express my thanks, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, to you and all the Members of the Council for the support and consideration that has been given to me during the year under review. For the unfailing loyalty and help of my staff I cannot be too grateful, and my thanks I also extend to your Clerk (Mr. J. Riding) for much kindly assistance.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. C. GUBBINS,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,834
Population :							
(a) 1951 Census	..	..	..	..	..	..	30,695
(b) Registrar-General's Estimate for mid-year 1956							31,230
Population density per acre	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.01
Rateable Value of district at 1/6/56	..	..	..	..	..	..	£308,563
General Rate (1956-1957)	..	..	..	..	..	..	15.6d.
No. of houses on Rate Book at 1st June, 1956 :							
Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,606
Houses and Surgeries	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Houses and Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	312
Houses and Offices	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Houses and Workshops	..	..	..	..	..	..	37
Private Hotels and Guest Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Licensed Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	85
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	9,064

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1956.

(Figures in brackets indicate 1955 statistics)

Births.

Live Births.	Total.	Males.	Females.
Legitimate ..	471	243	228
Illegitimate ..	14	7	7
Total ..	485	250	235
Birth Rate per 1,000 population :	15.5		
Comparability factor for births :	0.94		
Corrected BIRTH RATE :	14.5	(14.5)	

Still Births.		<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Legitimate .. ..	..	13	7	6
Illegitimate .. ..	..	—	—	—
		—	—	—
Total ..		13	7	6
		—	—	—

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births : 26.8 (16.6)

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population : 0.41

Deaths.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Deaths (all causes)	303	164	139
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 Population		9.86	
Comparability factor for deaths :		1.45	
Corrected DEATH RATE :		14.06 (13.2)	
Maternal deaths :		Nil	
MATERNAL DEATH RATE :		Nil. (Nil).	

Infant Deaths under one year of age.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Legitimate	14	6	8
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
Total ..	14	6	8
	—	—	—

Infant Mortality Rate.

Death Rate of infants under one year of
age per 1,000 live births 28.9 (37. 4)

Infant Deaths under 4 weeks of age.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Legitimate	8	3	5
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
Total ..	8	3	5
	—	—	—

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate.

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age
per 1,000 live births (16.49 (27.02)

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

The population of Willenhall as estimated by the Registrar-General was 31,230 ; an increase of 130 compared with the mid-year estimate of 31,100 for 1955. The excess of births over deaths for 1956 was 182.

Births.

During 1956 there were 485 live births. Of these there were 14 illegitimate births, comprising 2.8% of the total births, compared with 2.2% in 1955.

The birth rate per 1,000 population remained almost the same as for the previous year—15.46 in 1955 and 15.5 in 1956. The comparability factor for births is 0.94, which gives a corrected or standardised birth rate of 14.5, which is comparable with a rate of 15.7 for England and Wales.

There were 13 still births in 1956, a percentage of 2.6 of the total births compared with 1.6 in 1955. The still birth rate expressed per 1,000 total births was 26.8 compared with 16.6 in 1955. The rate for England and Wales per 1,000 total (live and still) births was 23.0.

Deaths.

There were 303 deaths in 1956. The death rate was 9.86 per 1,000 population, compared with rates of 9.87 and 9.4 for 1955 and 1954 respectively. Applying the comparability factor of 1.45 for deaths to this crude death rate, a standardised or corrected death rate of 14.06 is obtained, which compares with a rate of 13.2 for 1955, although there were 4 less deaths (11.7 for England and Wales).

Deaths from certain causes.

The last column of the following table shows the number of deaths from certain causes during the year and a comparison is made with corresponding figures for the previous three years :—

	1953	1954	1955	1956
Cardio-Vascular Diseases	67	90	102	89
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	34	34	35	39
Cancer	44	52	56	58
Bronchitis	26	30	18	19
Pneumonia	9	12	13	14
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	9	4	1	4

Principal Causes of Death.

The principal causes of death during 1956 were, again, diseases of the heart and bloodvessels (including vascular lesions of the nervous system) cancer and bronchitis.

Diseases of the Heart and Bloodvessels.

Diseases of the heart and bloodvessels together accounted for 128 deaths, 42.2% of the total deaths compared with 44.6% of the total deaths in 1955.

Cancer.

Cancer caused 58 deaths compared with 56 in the preceding year. In the ten-year period 1947-1956 deaths from cancer averaged 48 annually. Of these 58 cancer deaths, 17 were due to cancer of the stomach, 14 to cancer of the lung and bronchus (compared with 13 in 1955 and 10 in 1954), 4 to cancer of the breast, and 23 to cancer of other sites, the total being approximately 19.1% of the total deaths.

Tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis caused 4 deaths during the year, all of which were due to the pulmonary form of the disease. This is an increase from the deaths in 1955 which numbered one only.

Deaths from Violent Causes.

There were 17 deaths from violent causes, 1 of which was due to a motor vehicle accident, 12 to other accidents and 4 were due to suicide. This is an increase from last year's total of 13.

Age at Death.

Of the total deaths recorded 193 or 63% occurred in persons aged 65 years and over, compared with 55% in 1955.

Infant Mortality.

There were 14 deaths of infants under one year, being 4 less than last year. There were no illegitimate deaths. The infant mortality rate for the year was 28.9 compared with a rate of 37.4 in 1955 and 33.7 in 1954. This rate of 28.9 for 1956 compares with a rate of 23.8 for England and Wales.

Of these 14 deaths occurring under one year, 8 did not survive beyond the first month of life, this being 5 less than in 1955, the neo-natal mortality rate thus being reduced to 16.4 compared with 27.02 for the year 1955. This rate of 16.4 compares with a rate of 16.9 for England and Wales.

Reference to Table IV on page 32 shows the causes of infant deaths at different age periods under one year. The commonest causes of infant deaths were prematurity, hydrocephalus and spina bifida and pneumonia.

Maternal Mortality.

There were again no maternal deaths in 1956.

SECTION B.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND OTHER DISEASES

There were 135 notifications of infectious disease other than tuberculosis during the year, the general incidence being less than half of that of the previous year, when notifications numbered 402.

The most prevalent of the notifiable diseases were whooping cough 101 and pneumonia 11 ; the whooping cough rate being much higher than the previous year which numbered 7, and the pneumonia rate falling from 22 last year to 11 only this year.

There was a considerable decrease in the measles notifications this year, when notifications for the year numbered 8 compared with last year's figure of 355. There was a slight fall in the scarlet fever notifications from 11 last year to 8 this year.

Other notifications included 2 cases of paralytic poliomyelitis, 1 case of dysentery, 1 case of erysipelas, 1 case of food poisoning and 2 cases of puerperal pyrexia.

There were no cases of confirmed diphtheria, this being the fourth consecutive year in which no case has been notified.

Influenza.

There was one death during the year from this cause, the death rate being 0.03 per 1,000 population compared with 0.23 for England and Wales.

Tuberculosis.

At the end of 1956 the number of cases of tuberculosis on the register was as follows :—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	238	173	411
Non-Pulmonary tuberculosis ..	35	36	71

During the year 16 names were removed from the register for the following reasons :—

Recovered	9
Died	4
Left the district	2
Lost sight of case	1

There were 22 new cases of tuberculosis in 1956 compared with 27 in 1955. Of these 22 cases notified this year, 3 were non-pulmonary cases.

In the ten-year period 1947-1956 notifications of tuberculosis averaged 36.7 annually.

There were 4 deaths from this cause, giving a death rate per 1,000 population of 0.12 the same as the rate for England and Wales.

The table on page 34 shows the new cases notified and the deaths from this disease for the past 40-odd years.

Tuberculosis and Housing.

See note in section on "Housing."

SECTION C.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Local "Health Authority" Services.

These are provided by the Staffordshire County Council and comprise the following :—

1. Care of Mothers and Young Children.
2. Midwifery.
3. Health Visiting.
4. Home Nursing.
5. Vaccination and Immunisation.
6. Ambulance Services.
7. Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care.
8. Domestic Help.
9. Mental Health.

For the purpose of administering the above services, the County is divided into nine "areas" with an Area Medical Officer advising each Area Committee. Willenhall is a constituent authority of No. 9 Area, which also includes the Boroughs of Bilston and Wednesbury and the Urban Districts of Darlaston and Wednesfield, and has a total population of approximately 145,740. This local Authority has three representatives on the Area Committee.

The local provisions of the above enumerated services are as follows :—

1. Care of Mothers and Young Children.

Ante-Natal Clinics. There are two sessions per week, held at the Willenhall Clinic, Nurses Home, Walsall Street, Willenhall, on Tuesday and Friday afternoons.

Infant Welfare Clinics. These are held at the Willenhall Clinic, Walsall Street, on Wednesday afternoons. Also at Short Heath Clinic on Friday afternoons, and at Portobello Clinic on the first and third Thursday afternoon of each month.

Clinics for School Children. Minor ailment clinics are held at Willenhall Clinic, Walsall Street, on Monday and Friday mornings. A doctor attend on Mondays. Such clinics are also held at Short Heath on Friday mornings, a doctor attending alternate weeks. An Eye Clinic is held at the Willenhall Clinic on Thursday mornings.

Day Nurseries. There is one Day Nursery in the district at Memorial Park, fifty places.

2. Midwifery.

At 31st December, 1956, there were five domiciliary midwives employed by the Staffordshire County Council practising in the district. Hospital accommodation is arranged by either the General Practitioners or the Medical Officer attending the ante-natal clinics—on medical grounds ; or by the local Health Visitors—on sociological grounds.

3. Health Visiting.

There were five Health Visitors working in the district at 31st December, 1956. These ladies also attend the various "County" clinics. They can usually be contacted at the Clinic, Walsall Street, during the day.

4. Home Nursing.

There are four District Nurses operating in the district, the functions of the Willenhall District Nursing Association in respect of home nursing having been taken over by the County Council since 1948.

5. Vaccination and Immunisation.

Vaccination is usually carried out by the local General Practitioners. Immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough is performed at the Infant Welfare Clinics each week, mostly on children between the ages of three to twelve months old. Immunisation of school children against diphtheria (the large majority of whom have already been immunised) is carried out at special school sessions, at fairly regular intervals by County Council Medical Officers. Reinforcing doses are given at the ages of five and ten years at the Infant Welfare Centres or at the schools.

6. Ambulance Services.

Included in the " area " Ambulance Service is an Ambulance Sub-Station in Clemson Street, Willenhall, where a service is provided by three vehicles with a personnel of five men and a Station Officer. This Sub-Station is open from 7-30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Friday inclusive and 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays. The telephone number is Willenhall 1061. At other times enquiries should be made at the main Ambulance Station, Richards Street, Darlaston, telephone number James Bridge 2591/2, where a 24-hour service is available.

7. Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care.

Apart from work performed on behalf of the Anti-Tuberculosis Clinic, Bell Street, Wolverhampton, by the Local Health Visitors Care and After-Care is undertaken by a social worker and an Area Welfare Officer, both centred on Wolverhampton. The former attends to such matters as the provision of convalescent home treatment, extra nourishment, clothing, financial help, etc., whilst the latter official is more directly concerned in the care of the aged and infirm, and also works in co-operation with Voluntary Agencies for the care of the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, for whom there are training facilities and workshops, etc., at Wolverhampton and Walsall. Hostels for the aged are provided by the County Council at Lichfield and Cannock.

8. Domestic Help.

A Home Help Service is available and administered by the Area Medical Officer, 20, Hydes Road, Wednesbury, telephone number Wednesbury 0961/2. The Service is available for cases of illness, confinement, expectant mothers, mentally defective and aged persons. The number of Home Helps in the " area " at 31st December, 1956, was 67, of whom 19 were resident in Willenhall.

9. Mental Health.

The Area Health Committee maintains a Special Training Centre at Bilston which is available to Willenhall children who are considered ineducable at school.

Other Health Services are as follows :—

Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological examinations required by General Practitioners and by the Public Health Department are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Martin Street, Stafford. Chemical examinations—food, water, etc.,—are undertaken by the County Analyst, County Buildings, Stafford.

Hospitals.

There are no hospitals within the Urban District, but the following is a list of hospitals available to the inhabitants, which, with the exception of the Kingswinford Isolation Hospital, are situated within a distance of three miles from the Urban District :—

Infectious Diseases			Moxley Isolation Hospital, Wednesbury, (including smallpox). Kingswinford Isolation Hospital.
General	..	..	Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton. New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton. General Hospital, Walsall. Manor Hospital, Walsall. Eye Infirmary, Wolverhampton.
Maternity.	..	..	Manor Hospital, Walsall. New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton. Women's Hospital, Wolverhampton.

Accident Prevention.

Publicity for the prevention of accidents in the home continues as in previous years by the display of posters in the clinics and elsewhere.

SECTION D.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

During the year no action was taken under Section 47 of the above Act.

SECTION E.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supply.

The Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking supplies water to the area, which has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Chemical and bacteriological examination of samples of water from sources of distribution to the area and from houses in the district have given satisfactory results.

The water has no plumbo-solvent action.

Summary of Results of Bacteriological Examinations.

Presumptive Coli-Aerogenes per 100 ml.

Total Number of samples taken	0	1—2	3—10	Over 10
836	808	19	6	3

Figures are not available giving the proportion of dwelling houses supplied direct from the mains, as apart from those supplied by standpipes.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

The only developments of note which were completed during the year in connection with drainage and sewage disposal were three new intercepting foul sewers which were as follows :—

1. From the main Short Heath sewer near Sandy Lane to Ashmore Lake comprising approximately 700 lin yards of 21-in. and 400 lin yards of 18-in. diam. glazed stoneware pipes.
2. From the main Short Heath sewer near Lodge Farm to High Road at the junction with Haley Street comprising approximately 320 lin yards of 18 in. diam. glazed stoneware pipes.
3. From the old Sewage Disposal Works northwards to Lichfield Road and along Lichfield Road to the junction with Cannock Road comprising approximately 740 lin yards of 18 in. diam. glazed stoneware pipes.

Clarkes Lane brookcourse was culverted from Lincoln Avenue to the Bentley Canal comprising approximately 200 lin yards of 42 in. diam. and 35 lin yards of 33 in. diam precast concrete tubes.

Health in Factories.

The return made on Form 572 in respect of Part I and VIII of the Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948 is reproduced at the back of this report.

SECTION F.

HOUSING.

The Housing Manager has kindly provided the following information :—

Number of dwellings built and completed by the Local Authority during the year	95
Number of houses completed by private persons ..	76
Number of dwellings completed under post-war housing programme by the end of 1956	1,479
Total number of Council dwellings in district by the end of 1956	3,516
Number of families rehoused because of overcrowding	40
Number of families rehoused because of tuberculosis	6
Number of families rehoused from houses upon which demolition or clearance orders were operative ..	49

The Council's points scheme for the allocation of houses makes allowance for the consideration of medical conditions in awarding points, and in this connection close co-operation was maintained with the Housing Manager. If applicant or member of his family was suffering from tuberculosis, and housing conditions were unsatisfactory, priority in rehousing was given. Each case was considered separately, on its merits.

Slum Clearance.

To the February meeting of the Public Health Committee I made Official Representation concerning approximately 100 houses on the South side of High Street, Portobello.

Clearance of the buildings on the North side of High Street seems to be taking place extremely slowly.

SECTION G.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS.

Details of the work done during the year in connection with Meat and Other Foods is given in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

Food Poisoning.

There was 1 notification of food poisoning during the year.

(a)	Total number of outbreaks	..	..	..	1
(b)	Number of Cases	..	..	..	1
(c)	Number of Deaths	..	..	..	Nil
(d)	Organisms or other agents responsible with number of outbreaks attributable to each				Not known
(e)	Foods involved, with number of outbreaks associated with each food	..	..		Not known



REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

*Public Health Department,
Walsall Street,
Willenhall,
Staffs.*

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WILLENHALL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Since 1949 the Council has been doing slum clearance and between that time and the end of 1956, towards 300 houses had been demolished.

The decision of the Government, a year ago, to require local authorities to submit a programme for slum clearance in the next five years meant, therefore, an intensification rather than a commencement so far as this Council was concerned. In view of the number of unfit houses in the district, the elimination of these insanitary houses must form a predominant duty of the Department for a long time.

The passing of the Clean Air Act in July, offered prospects of a continuing improvement in the air we breathe from pollution caused by both domestic dwellings and industry. Until the passing of the Act, legislation was confined to industrial processes. For a substantial reduction in pollution there must be a simultaneous reduction in industrial and domestic pollution in industrial districts. Proposals were well advanced at the end of the year for an application for approval in principle to a Smoke Control Area at New Invention involving 419 Council houses and covering an area of 36 acres.

The Food Hygiene Regulations came into operation in January and work has been carried out at many premises in the district engaged upon preparation, storage and sale of food.

The important duty of meat inspection was carried out to the extent of 100% inspection of all meat slaughtered within the district.

Routine duties of the Department have been maintained, particularly visits in connection with infectious disease, water sampling of the public supply and supplies from the Public Baths, monthly analysis of the air pollution recording instruments, sanitation of buildings and examination of drainage work. The abolition of waste water closets continued at a naturally reduced rate, some 600 of these have been abolished in the past 10 years.

I wish to express my sincere thanks for the support I have received from the Chairman of the Health Committee and Members of the Council, and for the ready assistance given to me by all members of the staff throughout the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Members,

Your obedient Servant,

H. E. T. LOWBRIDGE,

Chief Public Health Inspector.



HOUSING.

In response to the request from the Government, the Council continued its programme of slum clearance. In the programme submitted during the year 1955, the Council intend to deal with 500 houses during the five years, although as pointed out last year the total number of unfit houses in the district is approximately 1,100.

During the year re-housing of tenants took place from 48 houses upon which demolition or clearance orders were operative.

Tenants from houses in the Portobello Compulsory Purchase Order of 1953 were in process of being re-housed. In this C.P.O. there are 46 houses and shops situated on the northern side of High Street. During the year a representation was made in respect of 98 houses on the southern side of High Street. Three Clearance Areas were included in this Portobello No. 2 Compulsory Purchase Order.

The standard by which an unfit house is decided is contained in Section 9 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, and these houses are typical of the type which, judged by this standard, should be dealt with.

The houses, generally, have shared water supplies, sanitary accommodation, washing facilities ; extensive rising dampness caused by the absence of a horizontal damp proof course ; there is an absence of a proper food store as well as disrepair and inadequate lighting and ventilation.

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954—Disrepair Certificates.

Under the provisions of this Act the Council must, in an appropriate case, (on the Tenant’s application) issue a Certificate of Disrepair in respect of a house. When this is granted the tenant will be able to withhold any repairs increase in the rent to which the landlord would be entitled under Part II of the Act until the Certificate has been revoked by the Local Authority on application by the landlord. Applications received and dealt with up to the end of the year were as follows :—

Applications from tenants for Certificates of Disrepair	2
Applications granted	2
No applications were received from landlords for Revocation of Certificates.	

Improvement Grants.

During the year nine applications were received for a grant towards the improvement of dwelling houses. Seven were granted, one was refused and one was withdrawn.

Intimations and Abatement Notices served.

During the year 284 Intimations were served for defects listed in Table X. It was necessary to serve 85 Abatement Notices following non-compliance with Intimations.

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

The Thresh Steam Disinfector situated at the Sewage Works was in use on 25 days during the year to steam disinfest bedding in conjunction with the treatment of furniture by Hydrogen Cyanide before the removal of 56 families to Council houses.

The treatment of furniture and effects with H.C.N. is carried out by a private company, whilst the bedding from the house from which the furniture is removed is steam disinfested. The operation of the disinfection and disinfestation service, as well as the rodent

service and the spraying of houses and other premises for vermin, is carried out by two workmen attached to the Department.

During the year 16 private and 98 Council houses were treated by the Department with insecticide to destroy vermin including fleas, bugs, cockroaches, ants, mites, etc. The corresponding number of premises treated during the previous year were 50 private houses and 87 Council houses.

Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures.

The trouble experienced in previous years with nomads again shows a decrease, caused primarily by preventing access of vans to the site formerly used at Darlaston Lane. A number of vans have, however, from time to time been present on land at Noose Lane.

Frequent enquiries continue to be made by persons who wish to install a trailer type of caravan in the district. The nearest controlled site upon which space may be available for the siting of trailer caravans is some four or five miles away.

FOOD PREMISES.

Slaughterhouses and Slaughtering.

The policy of moderate concentration of slaughtering initiated by the Government in 1954, was continued during the year under review.

Some of the meat consumed in the district is slaughtered on premises outside the Urban District; also, a quantity of meat slaughtered in premises in Willenhall is sold in outside districts.

From the knowledge of slaughtering facilities which are available in this and surrounding districts, it appears that the arrangements are adequate to meet all demands.

The slaughterhouses for which licences are granted are as follows :—

- 3, Fletchers Lane
- 134, Bloxwich Road South
- 119, High Road
- 17, Market Place
- 19, Market Place
- 77, High Street, Portobello.

In the case of 17 and 19, Market Place the slaughterhouses are for pig slaughtering only. At both these premises no slaughtering has taken place during the year. The slaughterhouse at No.

77, High Street, Portobello, is situated in an area subject to a confirmed Compulsory Purchase Order, the licence is issued for periods of six months, thus enabling it to be used until the land upon which it stands is required for re-development.

During the year a horse slaughterhouse which has been in existence for many years, was discontinued following the sale of the land upon which it was situated. As reported in the report for 1955, a nearby knackers yard was closed for similar reasons.

Meat Inspection.

During the year 1,079 visits were made to slaughterhouses for the purpose of meat inspection. Overtime has had to be worked, caused by the late time of commencement of slaughtering. The number of animals slaughtered was :

757 Cattle—excluding cows.
16 Cows
59 Calves
4,583 Sheep
2,019 Pigs
22 Horses.

The quantity of meat surrendered at the slaughterhouses as being unfit for human consumption was :

1 ton 8 cwts. 2 qrs. $4\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

This Act, as amended by the Slaughter of Animals (Pigs) Act, 1953, and the Slaughter of Animals (Amendment) Act, 1954, requires persons slaughtering animals to hold a licence expiring yearly. The licences are now required to specify the kinds of animals which may be slaughtered or stunned, and the types of instruments which may be used for the purpose. The Slaughter of Animals (Pigs) Act, 1953, requires pigs exceeding twelve weeks in age to be slaughtered by humane methods wherever they may be slaughtered.

There are 26 slaughtermen now licensed.

Inspection of other foods.

300 visits were made to food shops and stores for the purpose of examining food : 948 tins of food were condemned as unfit for human consumption having a total weight of 14 cwts. 1 qr. 14 lbs.

Other foods examined and subsequently condemned were chickens, carrots, potatoes, liver, raisins, etc., having a total weight of 3 cwts. 3 qrs. 21 lbs.

Types of food premises.

The number and the nature of the food premises in the district is summarised as follows :—

34 Butchers
186 Grocers
26 Greengrocers
3 Greengrocers and wet fish
4 Cafes and Confectioners
5 Cafes and General Shops
10 Confectioners
22 Fried fish shops
85 Licensed premises
25 Works canteens
3 School canteens

There were 1,139 inspections made of the above in an effort to raise standards of hygiene in respect of buildings, equipment and methods of handling.

Milk.

The following licences for the sale of designated milk were issued during the year :—

<i>Dealers' Licences.</i>	<i>Supplementary Licences.</i>
116 Sterilised	8 Tuberculin Tested
25 Pasteurised	8 Sterilised
10 Tuberculin Tested	8 Pasteurised
2 T.T. Pasteurised	

Ice-cream.

There has been continued improvement in the hygienic standard of Ice-cream since the passing of the Ice-cream Heat Treatment Regulations as the following table indicates :—

		Grade			
		1	2	3	4
1948—No. of samples taken—	85	27	11	19	28
1949—	128	67	29	17	15
1950—	190	116	38	21	15
1951—	89	48	27	5	9
1952—	91	49	32	6	4
1953—	86	61	22	2	1
1954—	78	74	2	1	1
1955—	49	46	2	0	1
1956	85	79	4	1	1

<i>Provisional gradings.</i>	<i>Time taken to reduce Methylene Blue Test.</i>
1	4 hours or more.
2	2½—4 hours.
3	½—2 hours.
4	0 hours.

Grades 1 and 2 are considered satisfactory and Grades 3 and 4 unsatisfactory.

Registration of Hawkers.

The provisions of the Willenhall U.D.C. Act, 1939, require the registration of any persons carrying on the trade of hawker and also require the registration of premises where the trade is carried on.

During the year one hawker was registered. The present number of hawkers registered in the district is 22.

Licensed Premises.

Work has continued on the hygienic conditions in Licensed Premises. 54 swabs were taken from drinking vessels compared with 55 taken during the previous year. Seven of the samples did not reach a satisfactory standard compared with 13 unsatisfactory ones the previous year.

The swabs are taken according to a standard method and are subjected to two tests at the laboratory. The object of the first test, the plate count, is to ascertain the number of bacteriological colonies present per utensil. The second examination is for the presence of bacillus coliform.

The suggested bacteriological standard is that the plate count should be less than 100 colonies per utensil, and the presumptive coliform test negative.

In the samples submitted, the details of the unsatisfactory ones were as follows :—

<i>Type of vessel</i>	<i>Count per Utensil swab</i>	<i>Presence or absence of B. Coli.</i>
½ pint glass	6,868 col.	—
½ „	2,600 „	—
1 „	12,500 „	Present (non-faecal type)
1 „	7,500 „	Present (non-faecal type)
1 „	6,500 „	Present (non-faecal type)
½ „	4,200 „	—
1 „	5,100 „	—

In all cases of unsatisfactory samples, the washing arrangements are investigated and repeat samples are taken until satisfactory results are obtained.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

These regulations came into operation on the 1st day of January, 1956, and now take the place of Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. The 1955 regulations, although basically similar to the provisions of Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, add a number of new provisions in respect of the hygienic handling of food and the construction and maintenance of premises, stalls, vehicles, etc., where food is handled.

Owing to the additional requirements and the number of premises affected by the new regulations it was not expected that all premises could be made to comply with the new provisions immediately. Substantial progress has been made during the current year, however, and I would like to thank the food traders for their co-operation in this respect.

It is often difficult for food handlers and the public to understand the reason for the regulations, and for them to believe that contamination of food, particularly cooked meats, can be present when the food from outward appearances is normal.

The time spent by an Inspector in the explanation of the regulations to food handlers is often well spent as the requirements of the regulations then become better understood.

I list below particulars of notices served and improvements made under the 1955 Regulations during the current year:—

<i>Improvements.</i>				<i>Premises affected.</i>	
Constant supply of hot water available	4
First aid kit provided	2
Additional toilet facilities provided	1
Improved ventilation of shop	1
Additional sinks provided	1
Additional wash-hand basins provided	2
Walls tiled or redecorated	5
Floors renewed	1
Floors re-covered	2
Counters re-covered with impervious material	7
New chopping blocks provided	5
Provision made for clothing accommodation	1
Refrigerators provided	3
Miscellaneous improvements	6

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

During the year 13 waste water closets were converted to water closets. The cost of conversion was paid for by the owners—no contribution was made by the Council.

The following table shows the progress made in the abolition of this type of closet :—

1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
39	43	76	101	92	59	67	17	39	13

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The Clean Air Act, 1956, which is the outcome of the report of the Beaver Committee on Air Pollution, came into operation in July.

Existing legislation has been repealed in its entirety and replaced with an Act to deal with the control of dark smoke from chimneys, railway engines and vessels subject to certain qualifications.

To prohibit the installation of new industrial furnaces unless they are capable so far as practicable of being operated without emitting smoke.

To require that the emission of grit and dust from existing industrial furnaces shall be minimised and that new industrial furnaces burning pulverised fuel or substantial quantities of other solid fuel shall be provided with grit arresting equipment.

To empower local authorities by order subject to confirmation by the Minister concerned to declare "Smoke Control Areas" in which the emission of smoke from chimneys will constitute an offence.

Broadly speaking, the first three of the foregoing provisions deal with industry while the fourth is concerned with smoke from domestic and commercial premises.

The extent of the control by local authorities over smoke from industrial sources is not yet known. The date of the coming into operation of the Act in so far as industrial processes are concerned has yet to be decided.

Certain sections of the Act come into operation on the 1st January, 1957. Provisions of the Act which come into operation

on this date are those enabling a local authority to form a Smoke Control Area. Plans were well advanced at the end of the year towards the making of a Smoke Control Area at the Council house Estate at New Invention Nos. 1 and 2 sites involving 419 houses and 36 acres.

Gauge Readings.

In conjunction with the Fuel Research Station, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, the Council continued to operate ten lead peroxide gauges in various parts of the district.

A deposit gauge in the Market Place shows the quantity of soluble and insoluble matter deposited.

The following are readings of the gauge in the Market Place for seven completed years :—

			<i>Average total soluble and insoluble matter in tons per sq. mile.</i>
1950	..	..	31.21 per month
1951	..	..	27.39 „
1952	..	..	22.64 „
1953	..	..	21.74 „
1954	..	..	20.08 „
1955	..	..	19.536 „ (11 months)
1956	..	..	17.72 „

Sulphur trioxide totals for stations calculable from milligrams of S.O.₃ per 100 sq. centimetres per day for seven years are as follows :—

1950	..	..	167.373 nine stations
1951	..	..	152.967 „
1952	..	..	137.680 „
1953	..	..	150.03 „
1954	..	..	142.79 „
1955	..	..	140.03 „
1956	..	..	167.15 ten stations

FACTORIES.

During the year there were 243 inspections of factories and 9 Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. There are 329 factories in the district. A wide variety of articles are manufactured in the district including locks, drop forgings, brass and malleable iron castings.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

This Act, which came into operation in April, 1952, aims at securing that all animals, birds and fishes, shall be kept in suitable premises, that they shall be properly fed, that they shall not be sold at too early an age, that precautions shall be taken to prevent the spread of disease, and that suitable steps will be taken to prevent injury in the case of fire.

The Council have registered 4 premises.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

There do not appear to be any premises for the manufacture of furniture, bedding, toys, etc. (in which filling is used), neither are there premises where filling is manufactured. There are, therefore, no premises subject to registration or annual licensing. There are eight premises concerned with the furniture trade where filling is used or sold.

SWIMMING BATHS.

During the season in which the Baths were open, samples were taken and submitted to Chemical and Bacteriological examination.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

As in the previous year, two men have continued to carry out rodent work as well as disinfection and disinfestation duties. The rodent work undertaken, whether it be routine treatment or attention to complaints, is invaluable in keeping the number of rats in the district to a minimum. The treatment of dwelling houses is carried out without charge, a consideration which encourages prompt notification by occupiers and so enables treatment to be given before an infestation reaches unreasonable proportions. A charge covering the cost of time and materials is made for business premises.

Considerable advice and assistance is also given in dealing with mice.

In addition to treatment of dwelling houses and business premises, attention was given to Sewers, Refuse Tips and the River Tame.

A summary of the work carried out is given below, whilst a detailed table is given at the end of the report.

				12 months to 31/3/56.	12 months 31/3/57.
All premises					
Inspections	{	Notified	.. ..	205	180
		Surveys	.. ..	592	592
Infested with	{	Rats ..	.. ..	117	142
		Mice	.. ..	67	74
Revisits	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1,629	1,134
Prebait laid for rats	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	962	1,688
Poison bait takes	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1,013	1,512
Poison baits laid for mice	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1,205	1,910

“ Warfarin ” has been the bait used during the year. It is used without the necessity for pre-baiting and the risk of poison affecting human beings is negligible.



Table I.

**BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY,
MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN
INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1956.**

					WILLENHALL	ENGLAND AND WALES
					Rates per 1,000 Home Population	
Births						
Live Births					14.5	15.6
Still Births					0.41	23.0a
Deaths						
All Causes					14.06	11.7
Typhoid and Paratyphoid					—	—
Whooping Cough					—	—
Diphtheria					—	—
Tuberculosis					0.12	—
Influenza					0.03	—
Smallpox					—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)					—	—
Pneumonia					0.44	—
Notifications (Corrected)						
Typhoid Fever					—	—
Paratyphoid fever					—	—
Meningococcal Infection					—	—
Scarlet Fever					0.25	—
Whooping Cough					3.2	—
Diphtheria					—	—
Erysipelas					0.03	—
Smallpox					—	—
Measles					0.25	—
Pneumonia					0.35	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)						
Paralytic					0.06	—
Non-Paralytic					—	—
Food Poisoning					0.03	—
Puerperal Pyrexia					0.06	—
Tuberculosis :						
Respiratory					0.61	—
Meninges and C.N.S.					—	—
Other					0.09	—
					Rates per 1,000 live births	
Deaths						
All causes under 1 year of age					28.9	23.8b
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age					4.1	—
					Maternal Mortality in England and Wales. Rates per 1,000 total (live and still) births.	
Maternal causes, excluding abortion					—	0.46
Due to abortion					—	0.10
Total Maternal Mortality					—	0.56

(a) per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

(b) per 1,000 related live births.

Table II.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN WILLENHALL URBAN DISTRICT DURING 1956.

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S RETURN.

Causes of Death.	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis Respiratory System	3	1	4
Tuberculosis Other	—	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Disease ..	1	—	1
Cancer of Stomach	8	9	17
Cancer of Lung, Bronchus	14	—	14
Cancer of Breast	—	4	4
Cancer of Uterus	—	—	—
Cancer all other sites	12	11	23
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	4	3	7
Diabetes	3	2	5
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	20	19	39
Heart Diseases	38	38	76
Other Diseases of Circulatory System ..	6	7	13
Influenza	1	—	1
Pneumonia	9	5	14
Bronchitis	17	2	19
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	4	6
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	1	2
Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea	1	1	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	—	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	—	—	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	2	2	4
Motor Vehicle Accidents	—	1	1
All other accidents	6	6	12
Suicide	3	1	4
Homicide and Operations of War	1	—	1
All other causes	11	22	33
All Causes	164	139	303

Table III.

QUARTERLY SUMMARY OF DEATHS ARRANGED IN AGE GROUPS.

Age Group	1st Quarter		2nd Quarter		3rd Quarter		4th Quarter		Total		Percentage
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Under 1 year	3	—	1	6	1	1	1	1	6	8	4.58
1— 5 years	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	0.32
5—10 "	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	1	0.64
10—15 "	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	0.32
15—25 "	1	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	3	2	1.62
25—35 "	—	—	1	—	2	—	2	1	5	1	1.94
35—45 "	—	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	2	2	1.29
45—55 "	4	6	5	5	3	2	5	4	17	17	11.04
55—65 "	10	3	9	4	8	3	8	3	35	13	15.58
65—80 "	27	16	16	21	15	10	13	12	71	59	42.2
80 years and over	7	16	8	12	8	4	3	5	26	37	20.45
TOTALS	52	44	42	50	37	21	36	26	167	141	

Table IV.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING 1956.

Cause of Deaths	Under 1 day	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total deaths under 1 month	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Prematurity ..	4	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4
Cerebral Anoxia ..	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Erythroblastosis Foetalis ..	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida ..	1	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	3
Broncho Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	3
Congenital Heart Disease ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Vagal Inhibition ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
TOTAL ..	5	2	1	—	—	8	3	1	1	1	14

Table V.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1956 (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS).

Disease	Total	Age Groups—Years											
		Under 1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—25	25—35	35—45	45—65	65 & over
Scarlet Fever ..	8	—	—	1	1	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ..	101	6	11	11	12	11	43	6	—	—	—	1	—
Poliomyelitis ..	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	8	1	1	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ..	11	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	1	3	2
Dysentery ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
TOTAL ..	135	9	12	12	13	14	57	7	2	—	3	4	2

Table VI.
TUBERCULOSIS

in Willenhall (including the former Short Heath U.D.) showing the new cases notified and the deaths each year since the commencement of compulsory notification.

YEAR	NEW CASES		DEATHS	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1912	85	—	19	1
1913	87	24	22	13
1914	66	22	21	13
1915	55	11	13	12
1916	65	13	23	11
1917	71	18	28	6
1918	56	8	44	4
1919	29	6	20	7
1920	29	6	14	4
1921	24	—	24	2
1922	55	15	34	7
1923	45	12	30	9
1924	19	5	27	5
1925	67	14	25	10
1926	71	11	24	5
1927	25	12	25	4
1928	39	12	17	3
1929	40	9	34	3
1930	42	3	29	3
1931	36	5	27	1
1932	36	3	16	6
1933	41	11	26	4
1934	45	5	14	5
1935	33	9	25	5
1936	47	5	14	3
1937	44	8	25	6
1938	45	8	22	6
1939	30	7	20	3
1940	40	5	24	3
1941	40	9	25	9
1942	38	7	23	—
1943	49	12	18	3
1944	42	10	19	3
1945	30	4	25	—
1946	35	9	20	1
1947	40	9	20	7
1948	41	3	25	3
1949	34	2	11	—
1950	31	1	12	—
1951	34	3	10	—
1952	32	1	8	2
1953	47	3	9	—
1954	36	1	4	—
1955	26	1	1	—
1956	19	3	4	—

Table VII.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED FROM 1946—1956.

Disease.	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Scarlet Fever	51	45	102	31	15	42	32	14	35	11	8
Diphtheria	19	21	22	9	6	8	3	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	21	18	15	27	21	29	34	12	28	22	11
Erysipelas	7	3	8	8	3	4	3	2	1	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	1	2
Cerebro Spinal Fever	4	6	—	1	—	—	2	1	1	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	31	1	1	—	—	—	1	2	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	2	1	3	2	—	1	1	—	1	2
Smallpox	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	6	409	277	122	255	239	134	381	21	355	8
Whooping Cough	71	68	121	35	187	58	74	102	15	7	101
Malaria	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	4	3	1
TOTAL	183	608	547	239	492	386	283	515	107	402	135

Table VIII.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948—ANNUAL REPORT.

1.—INSPECTIONS.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	329	243	9	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	329	243	9	—

Table VIII—continued.

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	2	—	—	2	—
(a) Insufficient	15	6	—	12	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	17	6	—	14	—

Table IX.

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL ROUTINE VISITS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS.

Complaints, requests for visits of Inspectors made to the Health Department	2,435
Primary inspection of Dwelling Houses	2,827
Revisits	803
Absence of adequate water supply or satisfactory water supply	4
Drainage	322
Inspections of premises where pigs and other animals are kept	15
Offensive Trades	97
Tents, Vans and Sheds	367
Factories and Workshops	273
Smoke Observations	7
Schools	9
Cinemas	4
Shops (Sanitary provisions of Shops Acts)	209
Butchers' Premises	249
Fried Fish Shops	26
Bakehouses	16
Rats and Mice	183
Grocers	342
Food Preparation Premises	96
Licensed Premises	153
Fishmongers and Poultry Dealers	30
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	47
Cowsheds and Dairies	6
Ice Cream Premises	158
Slaughterhouses	1,079
Market Stalls	597
Restaurants	21
Hawkers	32
Visits to works in progress	152
Verminous premises and visits regarding disinfestation prior to removal of tenants	305
Infectious disease	20
Accumulation of refuse	27
Waste Water Closets and Water Closets	666
Overcrowding	1
Atmospheric pollution	151
Number of Intimation Notices served	284
Number of Intimation Notices complied with	257
Number of Abatement Notices served	85
Number of Abatement Notices complied with	50

Table X.

PRINCIPAL IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED BY COMPLIANCE WITH NOTICES.

Dwelling Houses.

Internal

Wall and ceiling plaster or brickwork	..	..	..	..	..	..	46
Doors and window frames	..	..	..	..	..	..	65
Defective firegrates	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Floors	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
Stairs	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Dampness	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Cellars	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Dirty conditions	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

External

Roofs	..	..	..	..	..	..	93
Chimneys	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Eaves guttering and down spouting	..	..	..	..	..	..	38
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Fractured and defective brickwork	..	..	..	..	..	..	36
Pointing	..	..	..	..	..	..	6

Washing Accommodation

Washing boilers	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Defective sinks	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Absence of or defective water supply	..	..	..	..	..	..	8

Sanitary Accommodation

Insufficient or defective W.C.'s	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Defective waste water closets	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Defective cisterns	..	..	..	..	..	..	34
Accumulations	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	24

Food Premises—including Butchers, Grocers, Fried Fish Shops, Bakehouses, Licensed Premises.

Internal

Floors	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Wall and ceiling plaster	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Dirty condition of rooms	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Doors	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Storage	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Counters and shelving	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Preparation Tables	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Lighting	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Impervious surfaces	..	..	..	..	..	..	10

External

Drainage	1
----------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	---

Washing Accommodation.

Sinks	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Absence of or defective water supply	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Absence of washing facilities	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
" Wash your Hands " notices	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

Sanitary Accommodation

Dirty condition of W.C.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Absence of or defective W.C.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

Food Storage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Accumulations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Smoking in shop	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Provision of First Aid equipment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23

Table XI.**UN SOUND FOOD.**

					<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
16 tins Fish	..	..	..	..			9½
181 tins Meat	..	..	..	..	6	0	1½
726 tins and jars Fruit, Jam and Vegetables					8	0	0
17 tins Milk and Cream	..	..	..	..			24
8 tins Soup	..	..	..	..			7
					14	1	14

Other foods condemned consisted of Chickens, Carrots, Potatoes, Liver, Raisins, etc.—3 cwts. 3 qrs. 21 lbs.

Table XI.—continued

PARTICULARS OF CARCASSES INSPECTED, TOGETHER WITH PARTICULARS OF CARCASSES OR PARTS THEREOF CONDEMNED, IN FORM REQUIRED BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed and inspected	757	16	59	4,583	2,019	22
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	128	6	—	137	67	6
Percentage of the number inspected affected with all diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci ..	16.9%	37.5%	—	2.98%	3.31%	27.2%
Tuberculosis only :						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	33	3	—	—	47	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	4.35%	18.7%	—	—	2.32%	—
Cysticercosis :						
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

—Weight found to be diseased, unsound and unfit for human consumption :—

	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS	15	1	19 $\frac{3}{4}$	Carcase Meat
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY	12	3	23	Offal
	1	8	2	4 $\frac{3}{4}$

Table XII.

ICE CREAM SAMPLES FOR THE METHYLENE BLUE TEST.

	<i>No. taken</i>	<i>Grade 1</i>	<i>Grade 2</i>	<i>Grade 3</i>	<i>Grade 4</i>
January	—	—	—	—	—
February	—	—	—	—	—
March	—	—	—	—	—
April	—	—	—	—	—
May	—	—	—	—	—
June	—	—	—	—	—
July	—	—	—	—	—
August	23	21	1	—	1
September	9	7	1	1	—
October	22	21	1	—	—
November	31	30	1	—	—
December	—	—	—	—	—
Total	85	79	4	1	1
Taken in 1955 ..	49	46	2	—	1

No. of Ice Cream Premises registered for sale of Ice Cream during 1956	6
Premises on register for manufacture or sale of Ice Cream :	
Manufacturers by Cold Mix Method	2
Manufacturers by Hot Mix Method	1
No. of shops registered for the sale of Ice Cream	107

REGISTRATION OF HAWKERS.

No. of Hawkers registered during 1956 under the Willenhall Urban District Council Act	1
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Table XIII.

DISINFECTION OF PREMISES AND ARTICLES.

Number of houses disinfected with Formalin or Formaldehyde	6
Number of houses sprayed with Insecticide to destroy vermin including fleas, bugs, cockroaches, ants, mites, wood-worm, etc.	
Private	16
Council	98
Articles disinfected and disinfested—bundles of bedding	279

Table XIV.

SAMPLING BY FOOD AND DRUGS AUTHORITY. (Staffordshire County Council)

List of samples taken during the year 1956 :—

Milk

Milk Pasteurised	.. ..	26
Milk Sterilised	.. ..	26
Milk T.T.	.. ..	6
Milk T.T. Pasteurised	..	19
Milk T.T. Channel Island	..	3
		—
Total	..	80 All Genuine
		—

General Foods

Number of samples taken	..	43
Number of samples genuine		41
Number of samples adulterated		2

Classification of General Foods.

Pork Sausage cont. pres. (4 samples)	Raspberry Ripple
Pork Sausage	Snowy Pop
Butter Macaroons	Ice Cream (4 samples)
Strawberries and Cream	Corned Beef
Pure Leaf Lard	Soft Herring Roes
Full Cream Evaporated Unsweetened	Tea (2 samples)
Milk	Raspberry Flavour Crystals
Beef Dripping	Mint Imperials
Non-Alcoholic Cordial Raisin Flavour	Orange Maid
Pure Ground Coffee	Processed Cheese
Granulated Gravy Improver	Pure Coffee
Tunny Fish in Natural Oil	Rhubarb in heavy syrup
Freestone Peaches	Bicarbonate of Soda B.P.
Full Cream Sweetened Condensed Milk	Polony
Butter (2 samples)	Cough Candy
Creamed Rice	Licorice and Aniseed
Tomato Ketchup	Mint Rock
Sweetened Lemonade Powder	
Stuffed Pork Roll	

Particulars of Samples adversely reported upon

21 C/H Creamed Rice—Formal—Ingredients not stated in correct order.

Labels amended

4 C/M—Pork Sausage—Formal—Contains undeclared preservative.

Notice declaring preservative now being exhibited.

Table XV.

SULPHUR POLLUTION.

Lead Peroxide Gauges. Weight of Sulphur Trioxide collected in milligrams per 100 sq. cm. per day.

1956	Cemetery, Walsall Road	Memorial Park	66, Dilloyways Lane	179, St. Anne's Road	66, Broad Lane	Lodge Farm, Short Heath	Ravens- croft, Lodge Street	145, Pooles Lane	J. Harper & Co. Ltd. Clarkes Lane	204, Lich- field Road
January	2.30	2.36	2.16	2.53	1.79	2.40	1.40	1.69	1.56	1.56
February	2.63	2.73	2.32	2.46	1.87	2.93	1.61	2.26	1.67	1.74
March	2.22	2.32	2.20	2.22	1.92	2.40	1.34	1.39	1.36	1.67
April	1.87	1.56	1.46	1.45	1.17	1.80	1.01	1.20	.86	1.06
May	.99	.94	.79	1.03	.62	.86	.57	.72	.74	.59
June	.73	.75	.75	.80	.64	—	.48	.64	.69	.50
July	.73	.59	.62	.84	.61	—	.88	.55	.51	.40
August	.71	.86	1.02	1.02	.51	.78	.42	.55	.58	.42
September	1.19	1.43	1.22	1.32	1.02	1.27	.69	.78	.80	.66
October	1.73	1.8	1.51	1.63	1.16	1.73	.83	1.25	1.15	.9
November	2.40	2.33	2.38	2.31	1.9	2.56	1.35	1.71	1.62	1.28
December	3.26	2.69	2.36	2.96	2.22	3.20	2.07	2.03	—	1.57

TOTAL OF DAILY AVERAGES FOR EACH STATION FOR YEARS 1950-1956.

TOTAL OF DAILY AVERAGES FOR EACH STATION FOR YEARS 1950-1956.										Total for all Stations
1950	15.561	21.799	17.638	28.131	15.618	18.415	14.371	13.033	22.807	167.373
1951	14.27	27.85	15.03	24.02	11.665	16.15	12.231	13.571	18.18	152.967
1952	12.068	26.24	13.442	23.71	10.036	14.81	10.896	10.618	15.86	137.680
1953	15.67	29.75	16.36	18.78	12.23	15.80	12.20	13.67	15.57	150.03
1954	16.70	19.40	17.59	18.03	12.67	17.52	12.35	12.71	15.82	142.79
1955	19.05	18.92	15.79	19.18	13.64	17.13	10.97	12.35	13.0	146.29
1956	20.76	20.36	18.79	20.57	15.43	19.93	12.65	14.77	11.54	167.15

Table XVI.
ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Deposit Gauges situated in Market Place at rear of Gas Offices and in the grounds of Messrs. John Harper & Co. Ltd., Clarkes Lane, Willenhall.

Recordings for the Year 1956.

Deposits in tons per square mile.

1956	<i>Market Place</i>			<i>J. Harper & Co. Ltd. Clarkes Lane</i>		
	<i>Insoluble</i>	<i>Soluble</i>	<i>Totals</i>	<i>Insoluble</i>	<i>Soluble</i>	<i>Totals</i>
January ..	11.56	7.72	19.28	7.62	7.04	14.66
February..	8.23	5.05	13.28	7.93	5.21	13.14
March ..	17.22	5.32	22.54	10.11	5.96	16.07
April ..	12.20	6.10	18.30	3.40	5.82	9.22
May ..	11.01	3.43	14.44	5.71	3.57	9.28
June ..	11.15	5.55	16.7	4.15	5.38	9.53
July ..	7.07	5.29	12.36	7.89	6.43	14.32
August ..	4.51	7.31	11.82	6.06	3.18	9.24
September	11.12	10.35	21.47	6.53	5.58	12.11
October ..	16.17	5.42	21.59	7.45	4.8	12.25
November	10.81	5.22	16.03	7.48	8.41	15.89
December	11.05	13.85	24.9	9.52	13.71	23.23

Table XVII.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.**Report for 12 months ended 31st March, 1957.**

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Local Author- ity	Dwelling Houses	All other (includ- ing business premises)	Total	Agricul- tural
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	10	8,650	1,000	9,660	9
2. Number of properties inspected	7	435	330	772	5
3. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections	51	1,264	528	1,843	5
4. Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested :					
Rats	4	130	8	142	
Mice	2	51	21	74	
5. Number of infested prop- erties treated by Local Authority	6	181	29	216	
6. Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	10	194	53	257	
7. Number of notices served under Section 4	—	—	—	—	—
8. Number of cases in which default action was taken following issue of notice ..	—	—	—	—	—
9. Legal proceedings ..	—	—	—	—	—
10. Number of " block " con- trol schemes carried out ..	—	—	—	—	—

River Tame.

Number of visits	21
Number of pre-baits laid	967
Number of poison baits laid	601

